

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3661

Examiner: Marie Weiskopf

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Applicant(s): Katsuaki MINAMI et al.

Serial No.: 10/621,394

Filed: July 18, 2003

For: EVALUATION SYSTEM FOR VEHICLE  
OPERATING CONDITIONS AND  
EVALUATION METHOD THEREOF

Atty. ref.: GOT 172

**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT AND  
CERTIFICATION**

March 22, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted in compliance with the timing requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), i.e., after the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final Action or Notice of Allowance.

Attached is a copy of a Japanese patent publication, which was first cited in the attached Chinese Office Action of January 20, 2006, issued in connection with the counterpart Chinese patent application. Also attached is an English-language abstract of the publication, from which any relevance of the document can be gleaned. The publication is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Also listed for consideration on the attached Form PTO-1449 are two US patents, which were also cited in the Chinese Office Action. Any relevance of the U.S. patents is self-evident. Also attached is an English-language translation of the Chinese Office Action, from which any further relevance of the documents can be gleaned.

It is hereby certified that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with certification and before the mailing date of a final action or Notice of Allowance, no fee is required, and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 are deemed to be fully met as to all documents listed. Consideration of the listed documents respectfully is requested.

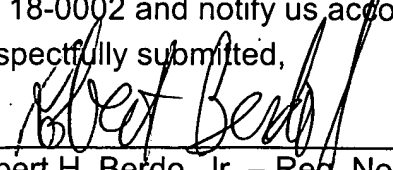
Should any fee be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002 and notify us accordingly.


Respectfully submitted,

March 22, 2006

Date

RHB/vm

  
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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> 				Attorney Reference: <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOT 172</b></p>		Application Serial No.: <p style="text-align: center;"><b>10/621,394</b></p>	
Applicant(s): <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Katsuaki MINAMI et al.</b></p>							
Filing Date: <p style="text-align: center;"><b>July 18, 2003</b></p>				Group Art Unit: <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3661</b></p>			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA	6,092,021	07/18/2000	Ehlbeck et al.			
	AB	4,905,544	03/06/1990	Ganoung			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	AI	2002-362185	12/18/2002	JAPAN			Abstract
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	AO

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.